

Organisation
Surrey Police
Representative
Tracey Wilcox, Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Sergeant
What role does your organisation play in improving community safety?
<p>Policing: Partnership work to prevent, detect and deter crime, disorder and anti - social behaviour.</p> <p>The borough police team delivers this through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The local Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNT) in each area, that comprise a PC and PCSO (Police Community Support Officer). • The Community Safety Team which supports the borough through Casualty Reduction, Crime Reduction and Youth Intervention.
What successes have been achieved in 2008/09 by your organisation, either individually or in partnership with other organisations?
<p>Performance of the borough¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 81% of the public have confidence in the police working in their neighbourhood (target is 73%) • most serious violence against the person has reduced by 36.4% • all other violence against the person has reduced by 4% • domestic burglary has reduced by 18.7% • criminal damage has reduced by 0.6% • vehicle crime (excluding vehicle interference) has reduced by 4.6% <p>Redhill Town Centre violence, disorder and fear of crime has been identified as an on-going issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-social behaviour at the Harlequin Theatre and night time economy disorder in and around Station Road have been addressed through joint working within the Joint Action Group and the Redhill Town Centre Disorder Group. Now a Local Action Team has been established to address a number of issues effecting Redhill Town and the first action plan on 'street drinking' has been approved. • Friday and Saturday night patrols have been increased in Redhill Town Centre by the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Alcohol has been confiscated, anti social behaviour has been reduced and the team's

¹ End of year figures April 2008 to March 2009.

presence helps to reassure the public.

- An ASBO has recently been granted against an individual who has been causing problems in the Redhill Town area – amongst other conditions the individual is not allowed to enter Redhill Town Centre until 24th June 2016.

Partnership working successes:

- Redhill's Belfry shopping centre now has an interactive kiosk allowing easy access to the borough and county council websites, plus those of Raven Housing Trust, the Surrey Primary Care Trust and Surrey Police. Reports can be sent to the local SNT from these kiosks. Funded by Reigate and Banstead Partnership, the project is part of the 'Access to information' initiative.
- Working with Reigate & Banstead Council, local officers and PCSOs are now authorised to issue Fixed Penalty Notices in relation to dog fouling and littering.
- The Community Safety Team have been moved to a more central location at the Reigate Town Hall where they have a closer relationship with our partners in RBBC.
- Operation Seadweller – a successful raid on two properties in the Redhill Rivers Estate. Six arrests were made and a large quantity of cannabis was recovered.

Engagement with the community:

- The new Active Citizen database has been launched. Members of the public who are local key citizens have been recorded on the system in order for updates to be sent to them on a regular basis.
- Panel meetings allow local people to have a greater say in determining policing priorities. The police look forward to increasing the number of 'new standard' panel meetings at which RBBC and SCC can be represented through elected members.
- There has been an increase in Neighbourhood Watch numbers.
- Pub Watches are active in Reigate, Redhill, Horley and Banstead. The website www.pubwatchesurrey.com was launched making pub watch material available securely to members online.
- Shop Watch was re-launched in the Reigate area with a greater than ever uptake by the shops, of the radios.

Have there been any barriers to improving Community Safety in Reigate and Banstead?

How can the Local Committee Members assist in overcoming these?

Capping:

The Government plans to reduce or 'cap' the amount of money Surrey Police have raised via Council Tax this year by £1.6 million. As a result, we will have to produce new, slightly lower council tax bills and distribute them

to every household in the county.

To return this £1.6 million (a reduction of 6p per week for a Band D council tax bill) via these new bills will cost us £1.2 million in administrative & distribution costs. The resulting reduction in our budget will force us to cut 50 front line officer and staff posts.

Some of these posts will be in the Reigate and Banstead Community Safety Team and will reduce our capacity around Crime Reduction and Youth Intervention.

We are campaigning for the Government to cancel this costly plan and to urgently review the amount of funding it provides for policing in Surrey. Local Committee members are urged to support our campaign as much as they can.

Please sign our petition (and encourage others to do so) which can be found at www.surreypa.gov.uk/petition.asp

Active Citizen System:

The Active Citizen System is now in place within the borough. This is a new system designed to be used by all Surrey Police personnel to engage and quickly communicate with our Active Citizens – members of the public with whom we have regular contact who can assist us to get messages out to the public. It is critical that should Local Committee Members wish to be updated particularly around high profile incidents and the subsequent police response that they are on our Active Citizen System.

If you wish to be on this system but have not yet completed the relevant paperwork then please speak with PS Wilcox at this meeting or contact her on 1238@surrey.police.uk.

What are your organisation's aspirations for improving community safety over the next 2 years?

Policing Plan Priorities include:

- Increase confidence in local policing
- Increase the satisfaction of victims of crime and road traffic collisions with the overall service provided by the police.
- Continue to target and charge those people involved in the supply of Class A drugs.
- Reduce serious violent and serious acquisitive crime.

